AIM

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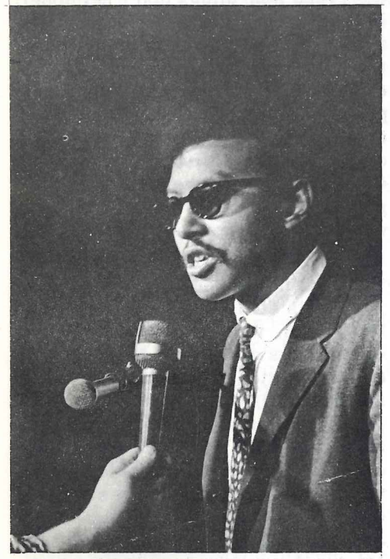
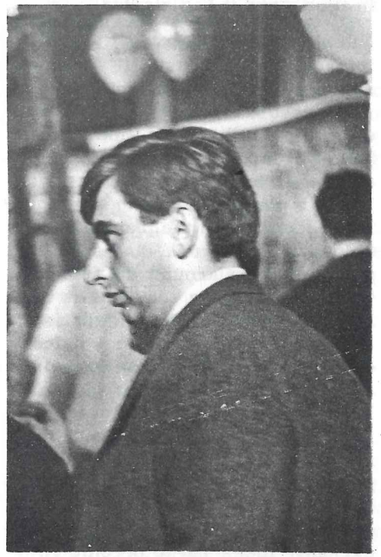
WE MUST CONTINUE TO ACT





Photos by Dan Church

FRED HARRIS

The outcome of the election showed how uneducated voters are, and it brought out the bias and prejudice of the people. It shows that people vote for parties rather than the issues that will benefit them and their communities. Also, I feel that our campaign offered the most honest alternative to alleviate the problems in the 106th District, but because I am a black man, white people just wouldn't identify with the problems and realize that they were affected by them also.

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BOB COOK

REFLECTIONS ON THE CAMPAIGN AND THOUGHTS FOR THE FUTURE

Last February, in our first mimeographed proposal, we described the campaign as the first "action project" of IPAC, its purpose: "to bring together those who have long been concerned about the war in Vietnam, disarmament, poverty, racism and prejudice while having no political organization which represented them; to provide a visible and legitimate platform for the presentation and debate of our analysis and program; to generate the impetus for further organization and action; and to challenge the incumbent Congressman Robert N. Giaimo."

In response to a question during a radio interview on the day before the election, I said that we had already won. By that I meant that we had succeeded in achieving the goals I just outlined. We reshaped the politics of the 3rd District; we raised the level of political debate; to a large extent, the issues discussed were our issues. We exposed Giaimo for what he is, a basically illiberal, prejudiced, simple man who will use liberal language when it suits his purpose, which is to stay in office. We not only talked about things, but actually demonstrated what a different style of politics might look like.

We did bring together many people who had been working separately for similar things. I personally was overwhelmed at the friendly response of people throughout the community. And as the days since Tuesday, November 8 have shown, we generated so much impetus for further organization that people can hardly sit still.

We should be glad for the respect we won among the press--newspapers, radio, and TV. This respect was reflected in coverage which increased in both space and accuracy as the campaign progressed, despite adverse editorial comment. We were told time and time again in the closing weeks that we had the hard-

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fred harris cont.

The black people are badly brainwashed with the Democratic Party, and because several of them have received individual favors they feel they owe their lives to the Democrats. The Democratic Party is so strong now in the black areas they don't even have to really spend a lot of time and money in these areas. When elections come around they can just depend upon these votes without any question. Also, the fact that a lot of people didn't know how to split their tickets--and some are just lazy --hurt us very much.

Another thing that hurt us is that black people in New Haven haven't really started to question the power structure in large numbers. Running as an independent is the only way the black man is going to achieve first class citizenship and human recognition. It's just in certain areas that little groups are becoming involved with the problems. But I feel that when these other black people finally get the message they will become involved.

The way the Hill Parents Association is run and the issues that we've become involved with, issues which affect the community, I think this is the way a campaign should be run. In other words, I think a campaign should not be just shaking hands. It should be a group of people trying to help eliminate the problems that hang up the community. This is the way you build a following and get people involved and show them what a bureaucratic mess the system is. I think our campaign did that, not as much as I would have liked it to, but to a certain degree.

There was a big gap between the Cook campaign and our campaign, which I think should have been operated on a closer relationship. I feel that the Cook appeal had a very heavy middle-class emphasis. When Cook talked in black communities he talked very well, but I feel that when talking with middle-class people he should not only mention the problems of poor people briefly, but he should educate people so that they understand why the problems exist--the economic structure, and so forth--and why black people conduct themselves the way we do. I feel that our campaign should have been more involved in helping to make decisions about the Cook campaign.

To most people it might appear as though Cook didn't do well in the black communities. As far as I'm concerned he did a fantastic job, because voting against the Democrats is like black slaves smacking their masters in the face or speaking out against them to their face. This takes courage that will come in time--and it has started.

I think our campaign has created an interest that will last. It's gotten more people involved, and these same people are looking for jobs to do with us now. The office that we had used for our campaign headquarters wasn't just an office, but it was a place to serve the community. People used the phone, people helped with the work, and some people just sat around and talked. Other people were educated as to how important political power is, and how they don't have any voice in deciding what will happen to their communities and their own lives. Now that the campaign is over, to remove that office from the community is like taking a portion of a person's body. We want to try to keep this office going so that people can continue to have a place to go to exchange ideas and to become enlightened, a place just to sit and relax, and a place they are going to run and operate themselves.

For the near future, I'm very interested in trying to create some pressure on what's happening to the reading ability of ghetto children--I guess all children really, in the New Haven school system. It's way below par, and I feel parents and people in the community have to become vocal once again if we're going to remove this problem. We will also continue to work with welfare, slum housing, redevelopment, high prices--everything, really, because our life is just one big problem.

by Fred Harris

bob cook cont.

est working, best organized and most exciting campaign in the district. Those of us who are intellectual snobs ought to remember that some of the best stories appeared in the New Haven Register, while the least accurate article appeared in the New York Times.

One thing we hadn't planned for, but which may be out greatest achievement, is the education each of us got in the course of the campaign. We learned about politics and people; about how to organize and get things done (and how things don't get done); about how the vote is delivered; about how Americans think and what they feel; about the strength of anti-communism and racism; about the press and how to read newspapers; about communicating new ideas; and on and on. We have all built a fund of knowledge whichwe couid have gained in no other way and which we will draw on for some time to come.

Where do we go from here? The war continues, people are still poor, racism is still rampant. In the next few weeks, we will have endless discussions about what to do, how to organize, etc. I hope that we can avoid the mistakes of many previous groups like this, especially the mistake of turning into a middle-class debating society which confuses words with action. I suggest that while we continue to seek power to implement our program through the electoral process, we also act now to correct injustices and to change our lives. This means engaging in projects which actually effect a change now, in schools, in water and air pollution, in conservation of land. It is through projects of this kind, I believe, that we will build the political base which can be mobilized for electoral campaigns. Without this base, we will either be swallowed up in a major party or be another ineffectual splinter party.

We are at a strange point in American history, at once both profoundly hopeful and frightening. There is a spark of change, yet the reactionary forces seem stronger than ever. This should only make us fight harder to turn our dreams into reality.

By Robert Cook

AIM

Editorial Staff
David Adams
Amalia Crago
Elizabeth Henderson
The campaing publication of the Independent Political Action Committee will be published every two weeks. Letters to the editor are invited. Send them to:
AIM Editor
IPAC
241 Orange Street
New Haven.
Individuals or groups not now receiving AIM are invited to add their names to our mailing list. Write to the editor or call 787-0123.

AN END TO INNOCENCE

On Election Day, Sarah Flynn and I sat in the Cook for Congress Office all day answering the phone, listening to problems and sending AIM volunteers out where they were needed at polling places. Few serious problems arose, but I was shocked and angered by the things that I learned about electoral and party politics that day.

1) Though in many wards and districts AIM people were treated well, in others they were harassed and inconvenienced. Some people were forced to stand more than 200 feet away from the polling place--the legal limit is 75 feet--other people were forced to leave or be arrested. The police were responsible for some of this; more often it was some party official who complained about our presence.

2) The sample balloting machine, on display in each polling place, is equipped with only two rows of levers with no allowance for additional parties. In some places, the American Independent line was pasted on the machine, but in most the sample machine looked as if only Republicans and Democrats were running for office.

3) We got several calls from people saying that the lever over Bob Cook's name either: a) didn't work; b) was more difficult to manipulate; or c) couldn't be manipulated once the party lever was thrown.

4) In several cases, the voter was instructed by the man outside the voting machine to "pull the party lever--top line Democratic, bottom line Republican."

5) In several cases AIM poll officials were either not respected in their right to be seated or ignored throughout the entire day, even though they had been specified in a letter to Mr. North and Mr. Rosien, the two Registrars of Voters in New Haven.

6) Many people who wanted to vote, not necessarily for Bob Cook, called the AIM office throughout the day because of the run-around they got when their names had been left off registration lists. We understand the necessity of a system of checking off names, but there should be some method of untangling the bureaucracy and making voting a less confusing experience.

7) Most frustrating of all, we learned of many, many people who wanted to but did not know how to vote for Bob Cook. Those instructing inside the polls, even when they explained how to vote without the party lever (not all did even that) said that it was "easier" to split a vote with the lever than without. And, of course, the sample machine usually did not even display Bob Cook's name.

With each complaint about difficulties or confusion at the polls, my anger increased. I realized that making people care enough about political issues to go out and vote was not enough. We must also work to prevent antiquated regulations, inefficient voting machines and prejudiced people, all geared to a two party system, from interfering with the legal rights and privileges of every voter. by Nina Adams

Photo by Ben Lifson

Sen. Wayne Morse of Oregon addressing Nov. 3 Rally at Woolsey Hall for the Cook and Harris campaigns. In his speech Morse emphasized the importance of re-establishing Congressional checks on the power of the Executive.

NATIONAL ELECTION RETURNS

As far as can be determined, Bob Cook received the largest vote for any independent congressional candidate opposed to the war in Vietnam, both in terms of percent and in terms of absolute number of votes. Second was Thomas Maynard of Maine with 4.4%. Stephen Minot received 3.5% in Connecticut's Sixth District, which was far greater than the difference between the Republican winner and his Johnson Democrat opponent. Other independent candidates in New York State received 3.7% of the vote or less. They included John Brush, Herbert Aptheker, James Weinstein, Carlton Fisher, Norman Balabanian, Donald Feder, and Jerome Balter. There were other independent peace candidacies in Deleware, New Jersey, and Michigan, but the New York Times failed to carry their votes. The Times also did not mention the Cook and Minot votes in Connecticut. They claimed that Giaimo received 56.2% and Salmona 43.8% which leaves nothing for Cook. That, of course, is just plain wrong.

Every single incumbent Congressman who opposed the war won re-election: Burton, Edwards, and Brown in California, Helstoski in New Jersey, Conyers in Michigan, Kastenmeier in Wisconsin, and Wolff, Rosenthal, Dow and Ryan in New York. On the other hand, a number of candidates opposed to the war, who were not incumbents but won primary elections, were all defeated.

As a rule, if you were an incumbent Congressman, you could afford to oppose the war and still win, but if you were a challenger, you could not win with the peace issue. It would appear that the American people have not yet made up their minds on Vietnam.

PLEASE PASS AIM NEWSLETTER ON TO FRIENDS -- AND SEND US NEW NAMES FOR THE MAILING LIST!

WHERE DO YOU STAND?

by Cordell Reagon

In the Fred Harris campaign we tried to do lots of things--getting elected probably the least of those. What I mean by that is that we talked to lots of people about things like poverty and welfare, police brutality, the war in Vietnam. We talked to these people about these things not to get elected but because these are the issues.

The big problem with politics in this country is that we the people have not yet grown to the point that we can vote on the issues. Instead we vote on the images of men who say "I look the best" or "I have the most money" or "I put up the most billboards," things to that effect. What people have got to understand is that these are the very men who are keeping us in the war in Vietnam, who are keeping the Hill section as deprived as it is, and who are literally selling themselves to the public on the basis of things that have no relevance to the real problems of the community.

In the past campaign we compromised a lot of our real principles and feelings because of our trying to compete on the same level with dishonest men--people such as Giaimo, all those kind of men--who run for the sake of winning, winning for the sake of profit, without the welfare of the people at heart. We don't necessarily see politicians as men with college degrees who profess to know all about community life, but--say in the Fred Harris campaign--we do know that we are poor and we do know that there are certain problems facing poor communities such as ours. What that means is that we have to get an honest person who is very willing to bring about change in this area that is relevant to the need. What that means is that we're going to have to have poor people making decisions about poor communities, people who live under the conditions and understand the problems, people like Fred Harris. We don't think that people like Mayor Lee can make decisions for us here because he doesn't know anything about us. He drives through in his Cadillac, shakes hands, and then with a faint smile is off again, pushing the physical structure of this community in the back of his mind, probably forever.

We see the politician's role not as one who stops on the corner and shakes hands but one who stands on the corner for several hours, talking to people about the problems and their ideas and what they see the community as, what they see it should be. We see them knocking on doors, setting up political orientation centers throughout the city that will educate people to what their political responsibilities are and exactly how to go about them. We see them assuming a role as a part of the community, not as an isolated superior officer that they think they are. I think that the only way we will ever achieve this kind of thing is through independent-thinking people who are willing to put their biases and their prejudices aside so that they might talk and think and act on the problems that are keeping us all apart.

People are going to have to understand that political decisions are very serious things, that they can stop war and they can make war, that they can starve you or they can make you fat, that they can be for the community or they can be against it. What this means, again, is that decisions are important and that we have not grown to the point of helping make those decisions or taking part in them.

Without true men, real men, honest men, there are no men, only puppets who go about their day on a time schedule for profit and self-satisfaction. The organized educational and political institutions in the country are the ones that breed and produce men such as these. The men who run our country are men such as these. I wonder whether the Independent Political Action Committee can resist the pressures of people both within and without it who aspire to be "successful" at playing the same game as the present dishonest politicians, or whether IPAC can develop a creative program that will lead people in the direction of dealing with themselves and the issues in the community honestly. Black people are beginning to decide that present American politics are no politics at all. Where do you stand?

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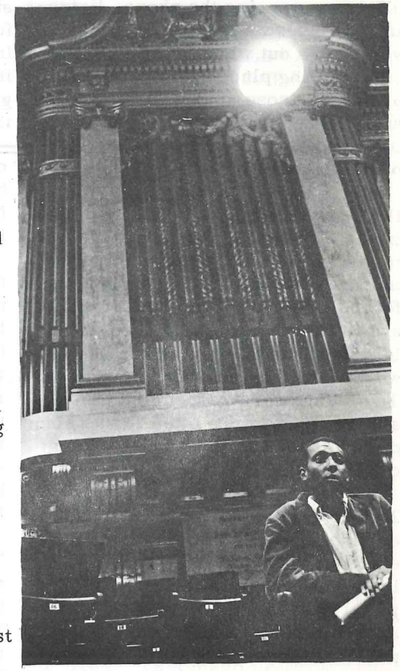

Photo by Ben Lifson

Stokeley Carmichael on the podium at Woolsey Hall, Nov. 15, before reading paper on Black Power which will appear in the Massachusetts Quarterly.

WE HAVE JUST BEGUN

The campaign is over. Fred Harris lost by a wide margin the State Assembly contest in New Haven's 106th District.

In the Harris campaign office at Cedar St. and Washington Ave., "the boys on the avenue" as they call themselves (but don't anybody from outside call anyone here "boy") have taken over. They found out that the office had to close because the Hill Parents Association can hardly afford its one office, let alone two. But it could not close, they felt, and it looks like it will not.

Last week the men from Washington Ave.--winos, welfare recipients, working men; blacks and Puerto Ricans and a couple of whites--signed up to kick in a dollar a week to keep the office open. "It can't close," one of the men said. "We just made a beginning, and we've got a long way to go. The boys on the avenue are going to keep it open."

Jack Page will collect the money every Friday. Jimmy Jackson oversees the office most of the time. The phone is gone because it costs too much, but the door is open and the lights are on. The people know that they have to run the place themselves or it will close down. They keep coming, because that beginning is so important to them.

It's a beginning which has been coming in fits and starts in New Haven's Hill section for almost two years now. In December 1964 a predominantly white student group and one black ex-SNCC worker went into the Hill to try to organize the people. We started a tiny, struggling, but vocal group called the Hill Neighborhood Union.

The Neighborhood Union operated until spring of this year. It was a frustrating year and a half, filled with small victories and huge problems. Basically, the Union depended too much on white student manpower and ideas. An organization like that never generates a widespread movement in the ghetto.

Spring 1966 was an important turning point. The Prince Street School protest brought the Hill Parents Association to the scene, and when the Neighborhood Union merged with the HPA the result was a stronger organization with more neighborhood people taking key roles.

Our next long-term undertaking was the Fred Harris for State Assembly campaign. Many of us had serious objections to electoral politics at this very early stage of organization, especially that too much attention is focused on parties and personalities instead of the real issues.

But what has happened on Washington Ave. alone makes the campaign worthwhile. We talked all during Fred's campaign about people making their own decisions, running their own community: basically, about people taking their lives into their own hands. That is what the men on Washington Ave. are doing. We have more people involved as a result of the campaign, and we have on Washington Ave. a new center of strength. We also have some valuable political experience. What about the election results themselves?

Fred polled 121 votes to 856 for Republican Paul Capra and 1584 for Democrat Anthony Ciarlone. That's about 5 per cent. In the same area Bob Cook got 149 votes, about 6 per cent (compared to his 7-1/2 per cent in New Haven as a whole, 5-1/2 per cent in the 3rd District).

The new State Assembly Districts gerrymander the predominantly black part of the Hill. Before the campaign we had only worked in a small part of the 106th District. The voting population is 60 to 70 per cent white. Poor and working class white people are unlikely to vote for a militant black man; and as might be expected, Fred ran just slightly ahead of Bob Cook in the two wards with large black percentages and Bob ran slightly ahead of Fred in the two mostly-white wards.

It's not as simple as pure racism, however. In the 12th ward, which contains largely black Farnham Courts housing project, Fred got only 26 votes of the 650 total. The real issue is the hold of the Democratic Party over people for whom it does nothing. We worked that district quite thoroughly, and we did make a few small dents on that Democratic hold: in the 7th ward, our strongest, about 35 people apparently voted straight independent, and an almost equal number split their tickets.

The remarkable feature of the State Assembly campaign is that the Democrat campaigned on no issues. Paul Capra ran an energetic, if somewhat amateurish bright-young-liberal-Republican campaign, and he ran 73 votes ahead of Gengras and 82 in front of Salmona. Totalling Harris votes and the votes that Capra got, aside from Republican lever-pullers, it is fair to say that about 200 of 2561 voters listened enough to issues to change their votes. That is a small but important beginning.

As for the future, aldermanic campaigns next fall seem at least possible. There is much to be done before then, however, because the real issues don't wait for election time. The Hill redevelopment project must be stopped, and there are all our other problems to work with every day: welfare, education, police, the whole list.

We also have a few ideas which will set the Hill on the way to providing for itself when the power structure fails, such as a low-cost housing project that might just bypass government urban renewal, a buying club that might become a community-owned and operated grocery store, a school, and Hill Parents Association trashcans on the street.

I should close with one more plea. If Independent Political Action Committee supporters really believe that people in neighborhoods like the Hill should organize to help themselves, then it is vital that the HPA be supported in tangible ways. Money is needed for rent and heat and the other HPA office expenses. Money is also needed, immediately, to feed Fred Harris' family so he can continue to work full time. This is vital so that the HPA doesn't have to fall back too much on white student manpower as the old Neighborhood Union did. Is it too much to hope that 40 IPAC supporters can promise $10 per month each so Fred can continue with the full-time dedication to changing this country that most of us don't have? Please call John Wilhelm at 776-6240.

ORGANIZATION OF THE COOK CAMPAIGN

At 7:45 p.m. on November 8, 1966, Democratic Town Chairman Arthur Barbieri introduced Giaimo to Democratic workers as "the man who beat Cook." How did the Independent Political Action Committee, which began last March with a dozen people, come to challenge the Democratic machine?

March 1966 was spent searching for an office, a campaign manager and volunteers. By April the office was found at 241 Orange Street; Bob Zellner of SNCC agreed to become campaign manager; Joan Stone volunteered to manage the office, a job in which she was later joined by Sarah Flynn and Linda Prokopy; and three committees - publicity, development, and finance - were established, made up mainly of people from the New Haven-Yale Committee for Peace in Vietnam.

The organization was guided from the beginning by the principle: "those who work make the decisions." Semi-monthly Monday evening meetings were set up to discuss issues such as Vietnam, health care, civil rights, and urban renewal. A loosely formed executive committee met irregularly to discuss questions of money and broad program, but most decisions were made on an emergency basis by a small group of people. As the number of Cook workers and supporters began to grow, this principle of organization became less effective, but the urgency of the campaign seemed to preclude more formal structure.

For the first few months the three committees did most of the work. The publicity committee divided into three parts: 1) a newsletter staff headed by Liz Henderson and assisted by John Sinisi and John Johanning during the summer, and David Adams and Amalia Crago during the fall, 2) a press release committee - really Mike Parrish who did the entire job throughout the campaign; and 3) a literature committee which, in spite of constantly shifting personnel, finally managed to produce several fine leaflets.

The development committee set up the first coffee hours and personal contacts between Bob Cook and the voters. At first each person on the committee was responsible for a different town or ward. By the end of June, however, towns like Hamden, Guilford, and Milford began to generate activities on their own and the development committee disbanded. Eventually the above three towns as well as Branford had large enough committees to rent offices. The development committee also began the petition campaign to put Bob Cook's name on the ballot, but the petitions did not get finished until Jack Osborne and Amalia Crago took over the job. Out of this experience another guiding principle of the organization emerged: "if someone takes charge, things will get done."

Fund raising and publicity were combined during the summer months. Bob Zellner arranged for I. F. Stone to come to New Haven for a fund raising dinner, and for Harry Belafonte to come and give a concert. A rally of peace candidates at Powder Hill with Senator Wayne Morse was arranged by Judy Eaton. As these events took place and the campaign built up steam, it became easier to mobilize Cook supporters.

After nearly 2,000 signatures were collected and Bob Cook's name was safely on the ballot under the party name of American Independent Movement, Jack Osborne turned to the job of introducing Bob Cook to every voter in the district. He came close to succeeding by working 15 hours a day and taking Bob through factories, meetings, bowling alleys, shopping centers, and any other place he could find where people were gathered in large groups.
Rick Wolff set up canvassing operations in the majority of wards within New Haven, where Cook workers became ward captains, contacted as many supporters as they could, and organized them to ring doorbells. Rick and Jack and later Nina Adams, helped initiate similar canvassing operations in Hamden, Branford, North Haven, East Haven, and telephone canvassing in Guilford, Madison and Milford. Unfortunately, West Haven and Stratford were only lightly covered, and North Branford was not canvassed at all. The reception at peoples' homes became warmer and warmer as the campaign proceeded. We could only conclude that, "the best way to convince voters is by personal contact."

On election day there was a climatic mobilization of Cook workers. It was organized by Nina Adams, who contacted ward chairmen and district and suburb leaders, asking them to organize their own areas. As a result of their cooperation, more than 300 people turned out on November 8 for all or most of the day - driving cars, standing outside polls, distributing 120,000 Cook for Congress sample ballots. Election day taught us something important: people are ready to work hard if they are given a purpose and some direction and advice.

The predicted post-election blues never occurred. On November 14, a meeting was held at the office. Out of 90 people called only a couple of days before, 75 attended. They came with so many ideas and suggestions for direction, purpose and organization that there was not enough time for discussion. Many discussions and meetings including several weekend retreats are planned for the next few weeks.

Other people may see the campaign entirely differently from our view. We see a small group of people, who expressed ideas that others felt but had not yet verbalized, who gained a fine spokesman in Bob Cook and began to work for real political power. We see their mistakes in the loose organization, lack of decision making lines, and lack of strong direction and control of the hundreds of volunteers. But we also see the excitement, devotion, and commitment of those volunteers when they were needed. The Independent Political Action Committee plans to continue to influence, affect, and correct affairs in the Third Congressional District of Connecticut - and is now beginning to have a real organization with which to do it.

by Nina Adams and Joan Stone

VIETNAM ACTION: 1965 - 1966

Many of the people who began the Cook for Congress Campaign came from the New Haven-Yale Committee for Peace in Vietnam. The New Haven-Yale Committee sponsored teach-ins, a peace march, a Powder Hill rally, and various meetings during 1965 in an attempt to educate people about the war, and get them to question or oppose it. Even though many of the same people and the same ideas were involved, the Cook campaign has been far more successful than the New Haven-Yale Committee, even on the issue of Vietnam alone.

Apparently there was some magic in political action itself. It enabled our small group to grow rapidly. It made people work harder. It allowed us to raise and spend large sums of money. And, for average people, who fear any idea which is not in the "consensus," it gave us a stamp of legitimacy so that they listened.

The New Haven-Yale Committee started a postcard campaign to force Giaimo to hold open hearings on Vietnam last fall. We collected several thousand signatures, but received no publicity and Giaimo brushus aside. This year, all that Bob Cook needed to do was to issue a press release challenging Giaimo to open hearings, and we received full publicity. Giaimo grew worried, though not worried enough to agree to hearings.

Teach-ins on Vietnam were sponsored by the New Haven-Yale Committee but they were confined to the Yale community. Bob Cook brought the reasoned arguments against the war from the teach-ins of the campus to the townspeople at debates in Milford, Branford, and New Haven, before the state AFL-CIO, and to television and radio debates which were heard or seen by the entire district.

During the International Days of Protest last fall, the New Haven-Yale Committee tried to mobilize street corner and door-to-door canvassing, but the turnout was small and relatively ineffective. This year, hundreds of people canvassed door-to-door over the entire district, bringing the Vietnam issue into the homes of thousands of people.

On the morning of the International Days of Protest the newspaper headlined a smear by Senator Dodd, claiming that the peace marches were controlled by "communists and extremist elements." The press wrote the stories in a way which made Dodd seem justified. This year, when Giaimo tried rather similar smear tactics against Cook in the Sheridan School debate, the audience and the press reacted against Giaimo. Because we were a political campaign we were "respectable."

When Hubert Humphrey came to town last year, the New Haven-Yale Committee could muster only a few picketers against him. But when Robert Kennedy came to a Democratic rally this fall, most of the young adults in the room were for Cook and shouted down Kennedy with cries of "we want Cook" and "Vietnam!" There is a rumor that Kennedy called Mayor Lee a few days later to ask what in the world was going on.

Last year when the New Haven-Yale Committee tried to mobilize the Yale campus, it appeared that most of the students were in favor of the war. The Yale Daily News carried one editorial in favor of the March to Washington, but that seemed the exception rather than the rule.

The Cook campaign brought many issues to the people this year, and most important for many Cook workers, it brought them facts and questions on Vietnam. Many people questioned the war for the first time. Others changed their minds and opposed the war. The Cook campaign has used many of the same methods as those of the New Haven-Yale Committee, and tried to say the same things to people, yet it went far beyond what the Committee could have done had Bob Cook not run for Congress. The campaign has proved that electoral politics is especially effective for bringing the issue of Vietnam to the people and making them begin to think.

ELECTION RESULTS BY WARDS AND TOWNS

Bob Cook received 5.3% of the vote in the Third District or 8,578 votes. In the 106th State Assembly District, Fred Harris received 4.7% of the vote or 121 votes. Within the city of New Haven, Cook's vote ran as high as 23% in Ward 18 and was over 10% in Wards 1, 2, 15, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, and 30. With the exception of Ward 30 which is in Westville, the other wards are near the center of the city and the university.

The full town-by-town breakdown of the Cook vote was as follows: Guilford 9%, Woodbridge 8%, New Haven and Madison 7% each, Branford and Hamden 6% each, North Haven 5%, Orange, North Branford and Milford 4% each, and East Haven Stratford and West Haven 3% each.

A more complete analysis will be done at the retreats and will appear in the next newsletter.

COOK APPEALS TO THE YOUNG

Everyone observed generally that Bob Cook appealed especially to young people, and it is possible, at least to some extent to document this. In Hamden, where Cook drew 9% of the vote, the Hamden Junior and Senior Classes voted 16% for Cook. In West Haven where the official vote was 3% for Cook, the high school gave him 22%. In North Haven, where the official vote was 6%, Cook drew 26% at the high school The contemporary issues classes at Hillhouse High School in New Haven voted 40% for Bob Cook. And the undergraduate student body at Yale gave Cook a resounding 56% with 598 votes compared with 250 for Salmona and 213 for Giaimo. These votes represent our hopes for the future.

Independent Political Action
Committee
241 Orange Street
New Haven
Connecticut 06510

AIM

A THANK YOU NOTE

This campaign has been a great experience for me, and I owe thanks to all the people who made it possible. I hope to thank each of you personally in the next few weeks, but I think everyone should know that it was the tremendous effort of hundreds of people that made the campaign what it was. Think of the newsletter, office work canvassing, leafletting, writing, fund-raising, designing, painting, organizing, phone-calling, printing, photography, early mornings, late nights, coffees, meetings, happenings, parties, art shows, baby-sitting, folding papers, stamping envelopes, and finally election day, when I sat still while everyone else worked. In the face of the insanity around us, it was a great display of the human spirit. Thanks again. Bob Cook.

JOIN THE SILENT VIGIL

"The first in a series of weekly one-hour silent vigils by Yale University students and faculty members began shortly after 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at the intersection of Church and Elm Streets.

Organized by students in the Divinity School in an attempt to 'arouse the conscience and feelings of Americans to the horrors of the war in Viet Nam,' the silent vigils will be continued each Wednesday afternoon until the war in Vietnam is ended, according to one spokesman." (New Haven Register, October 27.)

If all 8,586 voters who cast their ballot for Robert Cook would keep this vigil in mind, and attend whenever possible, the impact would be tremendous. Please do not bring signs.